

110TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7215

To amend the reporting requirements in the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2007 relating to military and political stability in Iraq to require additional information on the number of combatants and non-combatants killed, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 28, 2008

Ms. WATERS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To amend the reporting requirements in the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2007 relating to military and political stability in Iraq to require additional information on the number of combatants and non-combatants killed, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Human Costs in Iraq
5 Act of 2008”.

1 **SEC. 2. REPORT ON COMBATANTS AND NON-COMBATANTS**

2 **KILLED IN IRAQ.**

3 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

4 (1) Understanding the full spectrum of human
5 costs of the war in Iraq gives the United States a
6 better appreciation of its effects.

7 (2) After years of war, there is no official mech-
8 anism that attempts to count victims of violence in
9 Iraq.

10 (3) Estimates for the numbers of Iraqis killed
11 by violence since the 2003 invasion of Iraq range
12 from 82,000 to 600,000.

13 (4) General David Petraeus, in his testimony
14 before Congress in September 2007, provided data
15 on the number of Iraqis killed, but declined to ex-
16 plain how the data were gathered.

17 (5) A 2008 report by the RAND National De-
18 fense Research Institute, An Argument for Docu-
19 ment Civilian Casualties, stated, “There is a clear
20 need for better information gathering and analysis
21 of violence against civilians in Iraq.”.

22 (b) REPORT.—

23 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 9010(c) of the De-
24 partment of Defense Appropriations Act, 2007
25 (Public Law 109–289) is amended by adding at the
26 end the following new paragraph:

1 “(3) With respect to the number of Iraqi cas-
2 ualties, the following:

3 “(A) The recorded total number of Iraqis
4 killed by violence.

5 “(B) Best efforts to distinguish between
6 combatants, non-combatants, and official Iraqi
7 Security Force personnel killed.

8 “(C) Information detailing the incident in-
9 volving each casualty under subparagraph
10 (A).”.

11 (2) COOPERATION.—In preparing that portion
12 of the report required under paragraph (3) of sec-
13 tion 9010 of the Department of Defense Appropria-
14 tions Act, 2007 (as added by paragraph (1) of this
15 subsection), the Secretary of Defense shall coordi-
16 nate with the appropriate official of the Ministry of
17 Defense of the Government of Iraq.

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